



# Spark Gap

Vol. 35, Issue 7, July 2019 *MARC - Serving Central Indiana Communities for thirty-five years*

## *On Our MARC:*

I would like to thank all those that came out for the Strawberry Fest. Over 15 members came out to show support. A big thanks to Wilson for supplying pencils imprinted with Mid-State Amateur Radio Club. We passed out about 200 of these to the kids. Although Saturday was not as busy as previous years, we still had fun!! The bands did not fully cooperate, but several contacts were made to demonstrate Amateur Radio.

Next on our agenda was Field Day. This was our second year holding our Field Day at our new radio room. As I had mentioned at the June meeting, I was not going to be in attendance as my sister was in town from California. I would like to thank Chris, for getting the radio room ready, Wilson for being the cook again this year and Jack for taking lead. Things ran smooth as radios were all working and we were ready to get on the air at 2:00pm. We had Chris, Dave and Bruce on the radios, Jack was working on his FT8, and Tracy on his 10M rig.

We had 15 people stop by. Also about 10pm, we had a shift change. Thank you Tim, John and Jim for coming down and taking the night shift. This group of people had 180 contacts during the night. Way to go "Team Overnight"!!!

Sunday was day two and we had Chris, Dave, and Wilson back for more radio talk. Once all was said and done, we had about 220 contacts for the 24 hour period. Again, thanks to all those that came out and helped.

Next event will be Heartnut. More info to follow, once we get it.

This month speaker will be our own Mike Turner talking about Aviation antennas and oddities. See you Saturday. Coffee will be on.

*Jacki - K16QOG*

*President*





Combining flying with Amateur Radio is a dream job that all of us would like. Our July guest speaker is Mike Turner-K9OMT. Mike's career as a military pilot and later as a commercial pilot gave him opportunities before becoming a licensed ham to fly the friendly skies and radiate the airwaves along the way. Join us for the MARC July 20<sup>th</sup> club meeting as Mike explores Aviation, Antennas and Oddities.



***Birthdays for the month of July:***  
***W1VYN - Vyn Popplewell***  
***KM6CRL - Bill Jackson***  
***KD9FPO - John Dickerson***

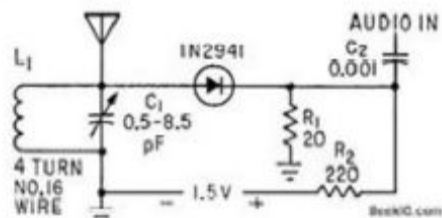
#### TUNNEL\_DIODE\_TRANSMITTER

Published 2009/7/23 21:55:00 Author: Jessie | From: Seek1G

##### Connor-Winfield TCXOs

FemtoCell, Stratum 3 Applications Global Positioning System Receivers  
 connwin.com

OPEN



Can be frequency-modulated for remote-control applications. All components are mounted on body of piston-type trimmer capacitor. Tuning range is 50 to 230 Mc. -Tuner Elements Ride Piggyback, Electronics, 35:31, p. 54-56.

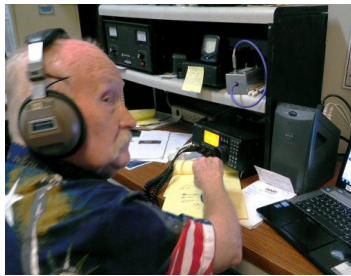
I found this to be interesting, not exactly sure what band it transmits on. Bob N9SIU

# Field Day 2019

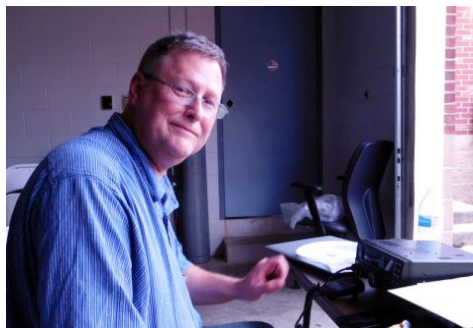
Field Day 2019 turned out to be better than expected. Mother Nature bypassed Franklin with the predicted summer storms giving us a dry and cooler than normal June weekend.

Thirteen club members dropped in to operate during the 24 hour contest. Despite poor band conditions we logged over 220 contacts. That tops previous year's efforts. Chris-KQ9Y had the two radio room HF rigs up and running for the marathon. Bernie-KB9AWS climbed the tower Saturday afternoon and switched coax cables on the End-fed antenna. That helped to get the second inside HF rig working better. During the day Dave-KB9LOT, Steve-K9DY, Dave-N9QVO and Chris-KQ9Y worked 20 and 40 meters searching for contacts. Out in the garage, Jack-W8ISH and Mike-KD9IZY camped out while running a third HF rig on 6 meters and later on 20 meters. Using 3F Indiana as a contest designator forced Jack-W8ISH to operate the FT8 digital station on 6, 15 and 20 meters when other operators took a break. This was the first year for the FT8 digital mode in the contest.

Later in the day Bruce-K9ICP took control and logged a good number of contacts. His performance was matched and then surpassed by the Over Night Crew of Tim-KD9MDZ, Jim-N9EJR and John KF6EFG. They logged over 180 contacts as a group during the 10pm to 6am session. Ron-K9THR checked supplies during FD.

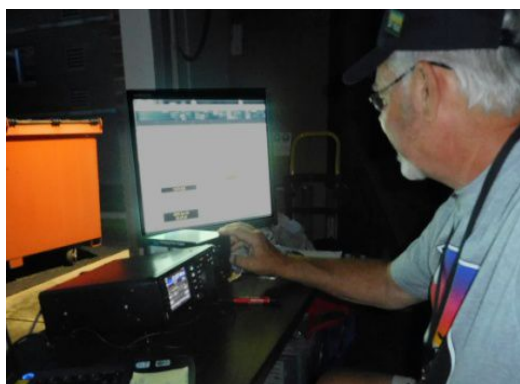


John-W9YD helped run coax as Jack-W8ISH erected a 15-meter vertical and a 20 meter dipole out on the front lawn. Johnson county prosecutor Brad Cooper stopped by his office to work and checked out our operation. That gave us another 100 points.



Our thanks to Wilson-KD9FBC for grilling up some great tasting hot dogs. Chips and condiments were provided by the club.





Make your reservations *Now* for the Mid-State ARC  
2020 Field Day and hot dog fiesta.

-Jack w8ish (photos by Jack and Jim N9EJR)



## If I Will Agree

**To Get You A Position  
Paying Good Wages**

When You Graduate From My School of

## Telegraphy

**Will You Come?**

My graduates are given immediate employment by Railroads, Telegraph and Wireless Companies, because my school is recognized as the only one graduating thoroughly practical operators. *Demand exceeds supply.* If you want

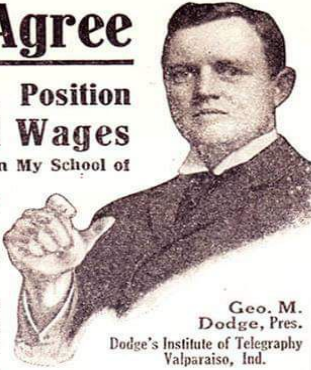
**Good Wages, Easy Work  
and a Bright Future**

write today. I offer you advantages unequaled anywhere

1. Oldest, Largest and most Successful Telegraph School in the World. 2. Expert Instructors. 3. Best Equipment — (we occupy exclusively two large modern buildings with R. R. train and Western Union wires and complete wireless station installed.) 4. Low Rates. 5. Easy Payments. 6. Living expenses earned while learning. Correspondence courses if desired. *New Course in Railway Accounting* makes my graduates proficient station agents. May be taken alone if desired. Write me today for illustrated descriptive catalog and interesting testimonials.

— GEO. M. DODGE, Pres. —

**DODGE INSTITUTE OF TELEGRAPHY,** 8th Street  
VALPARAISO, IND.



Geo. M.  
Dodge, Pres.  
Dodge's Institute of Telegraphy  
Valparaiso, Ind.

### Dodge's Telegraph, Railway Accounting and Radio (Wireless) Institute (1888–1944)

In 1888, Dodge restructured the school as the Dodge School of Telegraphy, retaining the link to the Normal School. In 1891, Dodge and F. R. Lunbeck reorganized the school. It began to gain students and became the largest telegraph and railway instruction institution in the United States and later became known as "*The Dodge Institute of Telegraphy*". George A. Dodge managed the school until 1891, when his son, George M. Dodge assumed active control. Like his father, George M had served as a telegraph operator for the Pennsylvania railroad. In 1888, George A. became the Valparaiso manager for the Western Union Telegraph Company, serving for more than forty years. The Dodge school has always taught Morse telegraphy and has enjoyed the distinction of being the foremost Morse telegraph training school. In December 1909, wireless instruction was added (the term "radio" was not in use), the growth of the radio (wireless) department since then has been almost miraculous.

### Valparaiso Technical Institute (1944–1991)

Dr. J. B. Hershman purchased the "Dodge Institute" in 1939. He changed the name to "Valparaiso Technical Institute" in 1944. *Valparaiso Technical Institute* (VTI) specialized in Radio Engineering, television, Broadcasting, Police and Aviation Radio, Ultra High Frequency, and all related Electronic training.[2] Classes at Valpo Tech after World War II were almost totally veterans going to school under the GI Bill. In 1953 Valpo Tech had about 85% GI's. Classes for the Fall of 1990 were cancelled because the faculty had all retired or quit. Students in the lower semesters just lost what investment they had made. Students in the Sixth Semester stood to lose diplomas and degrees. A meeting was held with these students and several faculties, where an agreement was made that Valpo Tech would rent classroom space, some of the retired faculty would come back and teach, all so that they got legitimate diplomas or degrees. Valparaiso Technical Institute closed in April 1991.

# Indianapolis Hamfest and Communications Expo 2019



I attended the Indianapolis Hamfest and Communications Expo held at the Marion County Fairgrounds this past Saturday July 13<sup>th</sup>. I was pleased to see that some good changes were made for the Hamfest this year. There was another air-conditioned building being used for technology and other groups such as Hoosier DMR, ARRL etc. The picture above is of the main building for the indoor flea market and as you can see most spaces were filled with commercial and hams selling their merchandise. There was a much larger selection items to buy than there has been in previous years.



The outdoor flea market was also expanded than in past years and some vendors came many miles to sell there used and some new radio equipment at this years Indianapolis Hamfest.



Kermit Carlson, W9XA ARRL Central Division spoke at the ARRL Forum about some proposed changes in Amateur Radio and the ARRL.

I look forward to 2020 Indy Hamfest 50<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary. .... Bob N9SIU

**MIDSTATE**



**AMATEUR**

## **RADIO CLUB**

**Will be on the air at the**



**HEARTNUT FESTIVAL  
in Johnson County Park**

**September 7<sup>th</sup> 2019**

**9:00a – 5:00p**

**Come out and see us!**



**[www.midstatehams.org](http://www.midstatehams.org)**

Congratulations to the following new and upgraded license holders:

June 2019

Robert S Joseph	AC9VJ Extra
Cole W Grubbs	KD9NJT Technician
David M Hullinger	KD9NDG General
Landon T Higgins	KD9MNC General

May 2019

Clarence H Young Jr	N9CHY General
James W Plahitko Jr	K9JWP Extra

April 2019

Carolyn A Meeker	KD9MZS Technician
Janet R Perkins	N9JRP General

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## UP – COMING ACTIVITIES AND HAMFESTS

**07/20/2019 -- 0800 MARC Monthly meeting at the Johnson County REMC.**

**Johnson County REMC 750 International Drive Franklin, IN 46131.**

**08/17/2019 -- 0800 MARC Monthly meeting at the Johnson County REMC.**

**Johnson County REMC 750 International Drive Franklin, IN 46131.**

**08/24/2019 -- 0900 Greater Greenwood Community Band Festival Amphitheater, Surina Square Greenwood, IN 46142 (Public Safety and Parking)**

**09/14/2019 -- 0800 Johnson County Heart Nut Festival, Johnson County Park**

**09/21/2019 -- MARC Monthly Meeting and Annual Picnic, Union Christian Church eat at 1130.**

**10/19/2019 -- 0800 MARC Monthly meeting at the Johnson County REMC.**

**Johnson County REMC 750 International Drive Franklin, IN 46131.**



If you would like to be part of Johnson County ARES please contact Bob LaGrange  
[N9SIU@YAHOO.COM](mailto:N9SIU@YAHOO.COM)



# BLUE RIVER VALLEY AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY



# 2019 SHELBYVILLE TAILGATE

**PLACE: SHELBY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS**

**500 FRANK ST, SHELBYVILLE, IN 46176**

**DATE: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2019      TIME: 8:00AM to NOON**

**SETUP: 7:00AM SATURDAY (INSIDE AND OUT)**

**Talk-in Frequency: 145.48 MHz 88.5Hz PL**  
<http://www.brvars.com>

The Shelbyville Tailgate 2019 will be held on October 19 at the Shelby County Fairgrounds. We have use of the Family Arts Building so that folks can setup their tables on the inside or outside, weather depending. We will be open at 7:00AM for anyone wishing to setup their table space. At 8:00AM we will open to the general public. Admission is free. No charge for inside or outside vendor space. Soft drinks, Coffee and Sausage Gravy and biscuits available while supplies last. No charge but donations will be accepted. NO ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE PERMITTED BY THE SHELBY COUNTY FAIR ASSOCIATION. These folks own the property so we have to play by their rules. Your cooperation will be appreciated. We will be closing up shop around Noon.

This will be an old-fashion tailgate event where hams can get together, ohew over old times and embellish their recollections of ham radio past. You can buy, sell or trade your ham related gear and visit with all of your ham radio friends. This tailgate event carries on in the tradition started by Ralph Polston, K9SEW, some years ago when he started having tailgates in his side yard. We are trying to maintain the spirit of those events and perhaps widen the circle of folks who might come visit with us. See you there. 73

**[www.brvars.com](http://www.brvars.com)**



Reminiscing back to when tailgates were tailgates.



Photos taken when tailgate was in Ralph's sideyard.

**YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR A GREAT TIME**



## MID-SATE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Mid-State Amateur Radio Club meets the **THIRD SATURDAY** of each month at the Johnson County REMC 750 International Drive Franklin, IN 46131.

See our website, [www.midstatehams.org](http://www.midstatehams.org), for maps on how to get to our meeting.

Everyone is welcome; you do not have to be a *HAM* to attend our meetings or a member of the club.

### WA9RDF Repeater:

146.835/  
146.235 MHz  
(151.4 Hz PL Tone)

### Club Officers:

President: Jacki Frederick – KI6QOG  
Vice President: Bill Jackson – KM6CRL  
Secretary: Rhonda Curtis – WS9H  
Treasurer: Ron Scheutz – K9THR  
Repeater Trustee - Chris Frederick – KQ9Y

### WA9RDF Repeater:

443.525/  
448.525 MHz  
(151.4 Hz PL Tone)

Weekly Net: Sunday evening 7:00 PM ARES/RACES members and ALL RADIO AMATEURS  
146.835/146.235 MHz (151.4 Hz PL Tone)

The Official Newsletter of the Mid-State Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 836  
Franklin, Indiana  
46131

Spark Gap Editor: Robert LaGrange N9SIU

*Please send your articles to my email: [n9siu@yahoo.com](mailto:n9siu@yahoo.com) no later than the 3rd of the month*



*Special thanks to Johnson County REMC for the use of their community room for meetings and testing.*